

Office of Consumer Counsel Active on Legislative Issues

The Office of Consumer Counsel ("OCC") has been an active participant in the 2014 legislative session, having testified on several measures being considered by the Energy and Technology ("E&T") Committee of the State Legislature.

On February 20th, OCC's Principal Attorney Joseph Rosenthal testified in support of S.B. 2, *An Act Concerning Electric Customer Consumer Protection*, which seeks to increase the funding to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP") to further develop the "rate board." Customers use the "rate board" to learn about and compare offers from electric suppliers to other suppliers and to the standard service offerings from The Connecticut Light and Power Company ("CL&P") and The United Illuminating Company ("UI").

On March 4th, Consumer Counsel Elin Katz testified before the E&T Committee on two proposed bills. The OCC gave its support to two bills being considered. S.B. 355, *An Act Concerning Representation of the State's Interests Before the New England Power Pool*, seeks authorization for the OCC to retain consultants to assist in its participation in the New England Power Pool ("NEPOOL"), an organization that OCC actively participates in. S.B. 356, *An Act Concerning Unauthorized Electric Submetering*, would allow the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority ("PURA") to fine any party who engages in unauthorized electric submetering.

The legislative committees will begin to narrow down the proposals they will consider and the OCC will continue to follow these specific bills, as well as other issues as they may arise throughout the legislative session, which will end on May 7th.

To view the written testimony of the OCC, click on the bills below.

S.B. 2

S.B. 355

S.B. 356